Issue Overview

During the Scoping period, we asked the public to identify their concerns and issues regarding the management of public lands. From these comments, 7 overriding issues were developed. The alternatives evaluated in the East Alaska RMP/EIS were created to address these 7 issues. Below is a brief description of each issue and keywords to help guide your search for specific topics and where they are addressed in this land use plan.

- **Issue 1: Travel Management**
- **Issue 2: Recreation**
- **Issue 3: Special Resource Values**
- **Issue 4: Lands and Realty**
- **Issue 5: Vegetation Management**
- **Issue 6: Leasable and Locatable Minerals**
- **Issue 7: Subsistence/Social and Economic Conditions**

Issue 1: Travel Management

Issue Statement:

Manage access, roads, and use of OHVs for various purpose, including recreation, commercial uses, subsistence activities, and general enjoyment of public lands while protecting natural and cultural resources.

Keywords:

17(b) Easements, Access, Airstrips, Boat Ramps, Communication Sites, Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs), R.S. 2477 Routes, Road Construction, Subsistence Use of OHVs

Issue 2: Recreation

Issue Statement:

Manage recreation to provide a diversity of experiences on BLM-managed lands. Determine what measures are necessary to ensure that a diversity of recreational opportunities is maintained. Determine what level of commercial recreational use is appropriate to maintain a diversity of recreational opportunities.

Keywords:

Back Country Byways, Campgrounds, Delta River, Facilities, Gulkana River, Public Use Cabins, Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA), Special Recreation Permits, Waysides, Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR), WSR Eligibility and Suitability

Issue 3: Special Resource Values

Issue Statement:

Manage to protect special resource values, including wildlife, fisheries, soil, water, air and vegetation, identified by resource specialists and identified through the public scoping process.

Keywords:

Air Quality, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Cultural Resources, Fisheries, Noxious and Invasive Plant Species, Paleontology, Prescribed Burns, Research Natural Area (RNA), Riparian Habitat, Smoke Management, Soils, Special Status Species, Sport Fishing, Subsistence Fisheries, Tangles Lakes Archeological District (TLAD), Threatened and Endangered Species, Vegetation, Visual Resource Management (VRM), Water Quality, Wildlife Habitat, Wildlife Population Occurrence

Issue 4: Lands and Realty

Issue Statement:

Determine the appropriate mix of lands and realty actions needed to provide a balance between land use and resource protection. Establish conditions that would apply to the Slana Settlement area is made available for disposal, considering the effects of disposal on the social and environmental conditions of the area.

Keywords:

Acquisitions, Airport Conveyances, Airport Leases, Exchanges, FLPMA Leases and Permits, FLPMA Sales, Land Conveyances, Native Allotments, R&PP Leases, R&PP Sales, Rights of Way, Settlement Claims, Slana, Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS), Trespass, Unauthorized Use, Use Authorizations, Utility and Transportation Corridor, Withdrawals

Issue 5: Vegetation Management

Issue Statement:

Manage vegetation to provide for forest health, personal and commercial wood products, and fish and wildlife habitat. Determine what role will fire play in this management.

Keywords:

Fire, Forest Product, Fuels Condition, Fuels Reduction, Grazing, Historical Fire Role, Personal Firewood Gathering, Personal Houselog Gathering, Prescribed Burning, Timber Sales, Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Issue 6: Leasable and Locatable Minerals

Issue Statement:

Determine what areas should be made available for mineral exploration and development.

Keywords:

Coal, Coalbed Methane, Geology, Geothermal, Leasables, Locatables, Mineral Development Potential, Mineral Entry, Mineral Materials, Mineral Occurrence Potential, Mineral Terranes, Mining Claims, Oil and Gas, Oil and Gas Stipulations, Renewable Energy, Salable Minerals, Required Operating Procedures, Standard Stipulations

Issue 7: Subsistence/Social and Economic Conditions

Issue Statement:

Maintain and protect subsistence opportunities. Determine how the management actions, guidelines, and allowable uses prescribed in response to the other issues will affect both subsistence opportunities and resources and the social and economic environment.

Keywords:

Access, Demographics, Environmental Justice, Social and Economic Conditions, Subsistence, Traditional Use